

## **BLADE HOLDER, BLADE AND BLADE TOOL HEAD**

**[0001]** This is a National Phase Application based on PCT/EP2003/010000, filed September 9, 2004 and claims the priority of German Application 102 42 336.9, filed September 9, 2002 the disclosure of which is expressly incorporated by reference herein.

## **BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

**[0002]** This invention relates to a knife holder for a knife tool head that can be assembled with chipping knives on the periphery and slabbing knives on the ends, where the knife holder has a mounting face for a chipping knife and an adjacent mounting face inclined to the former for a slabbing knife and knife mounting means for detachable mounting of the chipping knife and the slabbing knife on the respective mounting face; this invention also relates to a respective knife and a knife tool head having a base body in the form of a truncated cone or a cylinder and multiple knife holders attached thereto with one or more knives mounted on each.

**[0003]** Such knife tool heads are used, for example, for chipping wood, in particular for chipping the lateral segments of logs in profile chippers and choppers in the production of wood chips for papermaking. Chipping knives are used primarily to produce the useful chips, while the slabbing knives, also known as planing knives, serve primarily to produce a flat smooth surface on the remaining wood material.

[0004] United States Patent 5,271,442 and United States Patent 5,709,255 disclose generic knife holders designed in a U shape with a base plate that is provided with boreholes for screwable attachment to the lateral surface of an essentially cylindrical base body of the tool head. A buckling U-shaped section that is elevated from the base plate supplies the two mounting faces for the chipping knife and the slabbing knife, namely as planar surfaces provided with boreholes. Turning knives are used as the chipping knives and slabbing knives; each knife is secured between a respective carrier, which is in contact with the respective mounting face of the holder, and an outer clamping piece. For assembly, the carrier is first screwed to the mounting face of the holder, and then the chipping knife or slabbing knife is placed on top of that and next the clamping piece is applied and attached to the holder with screws at fastening points at the side next to the knife, with the screws passing through through-bores in the carrier.

[0005] Another generic knife holder is disclosed in Unexamined German Patent DE 198 16 164 A1, wherein chipping knives and slabbing knives are secured on the holder and clamped in the same way using a clamping piece and a carrier. The knife holder there has a flange with a dovetailed cross section with which it can be secured on a hub element that functions as the base body of the tool head. The hub element in the form of a cylindrical ring therefore has flattened areas on the outer lateral surface with longitudinal grooves introduced into them, so that a knife

holder with its flange can be inserted axially into each longitudinal groove and secured there.

**[0006]** The chipping knives and slabbing knives of the turning knife type used with the generic knife holders mentioned above have a rectangular basic shape, i.e., their transverse and/or narrow sides run in planes perpendicular to the longitudinal edge knife cutting edges. In application cases in which the longitudinal axes of the chipping knife and slabbing knife are in different planes, i.e., in which the chipping knife leads or trails behind the slabbing knife in the direction of rotation of the tool head, the chipping knife and the slabbing knife are in mutual contact on their facing ends of the free active knives only at some points when in the new state. Due to wear and in particular due to regrinding of the knife cutting edges, the case may therefore occur when the point contact of the active knife cutting edges of the chipping knife and the slabbing knife are lost, the result being a continuous gap between the chipping knife and the slabbing knife, which can become clogged with wood fibers or chips in an undesirable manner during operation.

**[0007]** German Patent DE 198 58 740 C1 describes mounting a knife on a knife holder which has a mounting face with holder contact faces that are inclined in a V-shaped cross section, where the knife is in contact with corresponding inclined knife contact faces in a V-shaped cross section. The knife is held directly on the knife holder and thus without the use of clamping pieces due to the respective knife

mounting means with a holding force that acts in the area between the contact faces, which are inclined in a V shape.

[0008] This invention is based on the technical problem of providing a knife holder which can be assembled with chipping knives on the periphery and slabbing knives on the end face, a knife for this holder and a respective knife tool head which will jointly permit secure, self-centering holding of one chipping knife and one slabbing knife jointly on a holder without any play. This holder can in turn be secured on the tool head and allows relatively simple replacement of the knives without any complex adjustment work, whereby the chipping knife and the slabbing knife can also be mounted on the holder with the knives in close proximity even in the reground state if necessary.

[0009] With the inventive knife holder, the two mounting faces for the chipping knife and the slabbing knife each have holder contact faces that are inclined to form a V-shaped cross section, and direct fastening means are provided as the knife mounting means, securing the chipping knife and the slabbing knife, each having knife contact faces forming a corresponding V shape, directly on the respective holder contact face with a holding force acting between the contact faces that are inclined in a V shape.

[0010] The line of action of the holding force for the chopping knife as well as that of the slabbing knife are each in the angle range spanned by the contact faces

inclined in a V shape, so that a self-centering effect of the two knives when secured on the knife holder is obtained due to the effect of the holding force. The centered position is unambiguously defined for each of the two knives by the pairs of cooperating contact faces inclined in a V shape and opposing one another with respect to the line of action of the holding force. The holding force which acts in this way also results in a uniform force distribution on these contact faces and thus on the whole in a favorable uniform fastening force acting on the respective knife and the knife holder. These characteristic properties of direct holding of the chipping knife and the slabbing knife on a common holder consequently ensure a secure mounting of the chipping knives and the slabbing knives on the tool head without any play even under load during chipping operation and thus permit a rapid and easy mounting of the knives with a high repeating accuracy of the knife position on insertion of a new knife without requiring complex adjustment work.

[0011] With the inventive knife holder as claimed in Claim 2, the chopping knife and the slabbing knife are attached directly to the respective mounting face and the holding body is designed as a one-piece part and can in turn be attached directly to the knife tool head. Consequently, this permits very simple mounting of the chopping knife and the slabbing knife onto a joint one-piece holder body and dismantling it therefrom as well as mounting the holder body on and/or dismantling it from the knife tool head with direct fastening means without additional parts.

[0012] In an advantageous embodiment of this invention, the direct fastening means consist of a single screw connection for the slabbing knife and one or two screw connections for the chipping knife. Beyond this, no additional fastening parts such as clamping pieces or the like are necessary.

[0013] Advantageous positioning of chipping knife and slabbing knife in relation to one another is provided by an embodiment in which there are corresponding angle ranges which describe the relative position of the cutting edges of the chipping knife and slabbing knife.

[0014] In a further refinement of this invention, holder fastening means for the knife holders are provided laterally next to the mounting faces for the knives. In this way the holders can be mounted on the tool head without being hindered by the knives and dismantled from it again without having to remove the knives from the holder.

[0015] Another embodiment of the inventive knife is designed so that it has one or two inclined contact areas on at least one transverse side, these contact areas extending from one end of the knife cutting edge with a slope that corresponds to a corresponding inclined angle of the relative position of the peripheral knives and the slabbing knives on the holder, so that when the knife is mounted on the holder as a chipping knife or as a slabbing knife, it is in contact with the other knife not only with spot contact but instead with linear or area contact with this area. The

chipping knife and slabbing knife may be provided with the corresponding slopes or the slope may be provided completely on one knife, in which case the other knife then has a transverse edge perpendicular to the knife cutting edge. The linear or surface abutment of the two knives in an area in contact with the active cutting edges yields the advantageous effect that the two knives are always in mutual contact without any essential gap on their active knife cutting edges even in a used, reground state, so that there is no unwanted clogging or jamming of chipped material between the two knives in the meantime.

[0016] With another embodiment of the inventive knife tool head, multiple inventive knife holders are distributed on the circumference of a base body in the form of a truncated cone. They are inserted here in the respective holder receptacles, where the chipping knives point toward the lateral surface of the truncated cone of the base body and the slabbing knives point toward the end face of the base body.

[0017] In a further refinement of this invention, multiple second knife holders are provided on the lateral surface of the base body of the tool head in the form of a truncated cone behind said inventive knife holders, each being assembled with a chipping knife and a slabbing knife, and are offset with respect to these in the circumferential direction, whereby the second knife holder is assembled with only

one chipping knife. It is found that the knife tool head designed in this way fulfills very well the cutting function as well as the smoothing function.

**[0018]** In another embodiment of this invention, the knife tool head is assembled with two different types of inventive knife holders which differ in chipping knives of different lengths. The two different types of knife holders are arranged in a preselectable regular sequence in the circumferential direction of the tool head base body. Here again, it is found that such a knife tool head fulfills very well the functions of chipping and smoothing at the same time, as expected of it.

**[0019]** In a further embodiment, the slabbing knives of two or more knife holders mounted on the tool head sequentially in the direction of rotation are arranged with slabbing knives and chipping knives in planes that are offset axially in relation to one another. This yields a certain desired chip thickness according to the axial spacing between such successive slabbing knives.

**[0020]** Other objects, advantages and novel features of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description of the invention when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.



**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

[0021] FIG 1 shows a perspective view of a knife holder with slabber and chipping knives for a clockwise chipping knife tool head in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention,

[0022] FIG 2 shows a top view of the holder from FIG 1 in the direction perpendicular to the plane of the slabbing knife,

[0023] FIG 3 shows a side view of the holder from FIG 1,

[0024] FIG 4 shows an end view of the slabbing knife for the holder from FIGS 1 through 3,

[0025] FIG 5 shows a side view of a holder according to FIGS 1 and 2 in the longitudinal direction of the slabbing knife but for a counterclockwise chipping knife tool head with the slabbing knife removed.

[0026] FIG 6 shows a view from FIG 5 with the slabbing knife mounted,

[0027] FIG 7 shows a top view of the top side of a chipping knife used for the holder from FIG 5,

[0028] FIG 8 shows a top view of the bottom side of the chipping knife from FIG 7,

[0029] FIG 9 shows a top view of another side face of the knife holder according to FIGS 5 and 6 to illustrate the mounting of the chipping knife,

[0030] FIG 10 shows a perspective view of a counterclockwise chipping knife tool head with knife holders according to the type shown in FIGS 5 through 7 using two types of chipping knives of different lengths, and

[0031] FIG 11 shows a perspective view of a clockwise chipping knife tool head with knife holders according to FIGS 1 through 3 and other knife holders assembled only with chipping knives.

#### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

[0032] FIGS 1 through 3 show a knife holder for a counterclockwise knife tool head. The knife holder consists of a one-part solid metal holder body 1 having the shape indicated in FIGS 1 through 3. The forward holder body face in FIGS 1 and 2 includes a smaller first face area 2 and a larger second face area 3 which is inclined with respect to the former. A left part (in FIGS 1 and 2) of the first face area 2 is designed as a mounting face 4 on which a slabbing knife 5 is mounted. A left part (in FIGS 1 and 2) of the second face area 3 is designed as a mounting face 6, which is in contact with the mounting face 4 and on which a chipping knife 7 is mounted.

[0033] Turning knives each with two opposing cutting edges 5a, 5b and/or 7a, 7b are used as the slabbing knives and chipping knives 5, 7, whereby the slabbing

knife 5 has a rectangular base shape with transverse sides 30, 31 perpendicular to the longitudinal-side knife cutting edges 5a, 5b and positioned on the holder body 1 so that it is largely parallel with its knife plane to the end face of the tool head when the holder body 1 is attached to the tool head. The chipping knife 7, also referred to as the peripheral knife, extends with its plane of the knife essentially on the circumference of the tool head when the holder body 1 is mounted on the tool head. It has an elongated, essentially rectangular base shape, but it is sloped over a certain extent in contact with the cutting edges 7a, 7b on its four corner areas on the transverse sides 32, 33, forming corresponding surface-area contact areas 34 to 37.

[0034] As shown in FIGS 1 and 2, the two knives 5, 7 are in contact at the ends with their free active knife cutting edges 5a, 7a or at any rate there is only a very slight distance between them. Chips released by these knife cutting edges 5a, 7a during operation can be diverted via the adjacent side 8 of the holder body 1 functioning as a baffle. The angle values in the two different views in two mutually perpendicular directions according to FIGS 2 and 3 define the mutual spatial positions of the slabbing knife 5 and the chipping knife 7, in particular the mutual spatial positions of their effective free cutting edges 5a, 7a. In the horizontal projection in FIG 2 perpendicular to the plane of the slabbing knife 5, the effective cutting edges 5a, 7a of the slabbing knife 5 and the chipping knife 7 form an angle  $\alpha$  which amounts to approx.  $159^\circ$  in the example shown here and may have a different

value between  $130^\circ$  and  $230^\circ$  as needed in the alternative exemplary embodiments. This angle  $\alpha$  determines whether and to what extent the chipping knife 7 leads or lags behind the slabbing knife 5 in the direction of rotation of the tool head. The angle  $\beta$ , which is shown in FIG 3 in a projected view parallel to the chipping knife plane indicates how steep the chipping knife is with respect to the plane of the slabbing knife, and thus the end face of the tool head. In the example shown here, the angle  $\beta$  amounts to approximately  $135^\circ$  and in alternative exemplary embodiments it may assume values between  $80^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$ , as needed.

[0035] As FIGS 1 and 2 also show, the slopes of the chipping knife contact areas 34, 35, 36, 37 are coordinated with the relative position of the chipping knife 7 in relation to the slabbing knife 5, so that with the contact area 34, which, when the knife is mounted, is in contact with the active cutting edge 7a and is facing the slabbing knife 5, the chipping knife 7 is in at least linear contact with the slabbing knife 5 and not just in a point. This has the advantage that the chipping knife 7 and the slabbing knife 5 are in contact with one another without a gap between their two active cutting edges 7a, 5a when their active cutting edges 7a, 5a have already worn away somewhat in comparison with the new state and/or they have already been shortened somewhat in the depth of the cutting knife due to regrinding. For the sake of illustration, FIG 2 shows such a shortened reground cutting edge shape 5'a, 7'a shown with dotted lines. It can be seen here that the transition between the slabbing knife 5 and the chipping knife 7, which is more or less without any gaps, is

completely retained as a result of this measure. The slope of the respective chipping knife contact area 34 through 37 is coordinated first with the forward and/or reverse angle  $\nabla$  as shown in FIG 2 and secondly with the chipping knife pitch angle  $\exists$  as shown in FIG 3, so that the chipping knife 7 is even in area contact with the slabbing knife 5 over the respective contact area 34.

[0036] The slabbing knife 5 is detachably attached to the slabbing knife mounting face 4 of the holder body 1 by means of a single central screw connection 9. The slabbing knife mounting face 4 of the holder body 1 has profiling with two holder contact faces inclined in a V-shaped cross section against which the slabbing knife 5 is in contact with two corresponding knife contact faces inclined toward one another in a V shape, as explained in greater detail below with respect to the exemplary embodiment shown in FIGS 4 through 7. The holder contact faces and knife contact faces which are inclined toward one another in a V shape form an angle of preferably less than  $130^\circ$ , e.g., approximately  $110^\circ$ . The V angle formed by the knife contact faces that are inclined in a V shape is preferably somewhat smaller than the V angle formed by the holder contact faces, so that in mounting, the slabbing knife with its contact faces comes to rest at first primarily against the outer end areas of the V legs against the mounting face 4 and then is pressed with a self-centering effect into the V-shaped receptacle formed by the contact faces of this mounting face 4 under the influence of the fastening screw 9.

[0037] Similarly, the chipping knife 7 is secured by means of two fastening screws 10, 11 on the respective mounting face 6 (having a profiling with two holder contact faces inclined to form a V-shaped cross section) of the holder body 1, against which corresponding knife contact faces, provided on the backs of the chipping knives and inclined in a V shape, are in centering contact. The V-profiling runs in the longitudinal direction of the knife for the slabbing knife 5 and the chipping knife 7, i.e., running parallel to the knife cutting edges 5a, 7a. The fastening screws and thus the lines of influence of these fastening means extend between the respective pair of V-shaped contact faces, so that self-centering holding forces distributed uniformly are exerted by the screw connections 9, 10, 11 on the slabbing knife 5 and the chipping knife 7. For additional details about this type of knife mounting, reference is also made to DE 198 58 740 C1, which was cited in the introduction.

[0038] In the section on the right in FIGS 1 and 2 next to the mounting faces 4, 6 for the knife mounting, the holder body 1 is provided with two continuous bores 12, 13, each introduced into the holder body 1 at approximately right angles to the plane of the slabbing knife, whereby one bore 12 is situated in the first face area 2 and the second bore 13 is in the second face area 3. These bores 12, 13 together with respective fastening screws (not shown) form holder fastening means for securing the holding body 1 directly on the tool head. This permits a very simple means of fastening the holder on the tool head using only two screws without any interference by the slabbing knife 5 and the chipping knife 7 and without having to

dismantle one of the knives 5, 7 when the holder is mounted on or dismantled from the tool head. In alternative embodiments, instead of the V-shaped contact faces, a different type of surface contact between the holder body 1 and the respective knife 5, 7 may be provided, retaining a direct fastening of a chipping knife and a slabbing knife on a one-piece holder body which is in turn attached directly to the knife tool head.

[0039] FIGS 4 through 8 illustrate a knife holder with a one-piece holder body 14 which corresponds largely to that of FIGS 1 through 3, but in contrast with that is designed for a counterclockwise chipping knife tool head as well as the respective knives. In particular, the same slabbing knives 5 and similar chipping knives 7, 7' can be used for the two knife holders, and for the sake of simplicity, the same reference notation has been used for elements that are functionally similar.

[0040] FIG 4 shows an end view of the slabbing knife 5 of the turning knife type that can be used for both knife holders with one knife cutting edge 5a, 5b for each running along the two longitudinal edges of the knife. The two knife contact faces 5c, 5d which are inclined toward one another in a V shape can be seen on the back side of the knife in FIG 4, forming the contact faces of the slabbing knife 5 in mounting on the holder body 1, 14, as explained above.

[0041] FIG 5 shows the holder body 14 with the knives removed in a direction parallel to the front view of the slabbing knife in FIG 4, i.e., parallel to the

longitudinal axis of the slabbing knife and/or the knife cutting edges 5a, 5b when the slabbing knife 5 is mounted. FIG 6 shows the corresponding view with the slabbing knife 5 mounted. The corresponding holder contact faces 14a, 14b inclined toward one another in a V shape can be seen clearly in FIG 5; they are formed by corresponding profiling of the slabbing knife mounting face 4 of the holder body 14 and can be applied against the slabbing knife with its V-shaped contact faces 5c, 5d with a self-centering effect, as explained above with regard to the embodiment illustrated in FIGS 1 through 3. The V holder contact faces 14a, 14b end toward the inside in a trough-shaped recess 15 in the end view of FIG 5 and toward the outside they end in one shoulder 16a, 16b each. With the mounted slabbing knife 5, knife-like projections 17a, 17b extend beyond the shoulders 16a, 16b on the holder side with a centering effect and securing the position as shown in FIG 6.

**[0042]** Again in this example, the slabbing knife 5 is held on the holder body 14 by means of a single central fastening screw which passes through a central borehole in the slabbing knife 5 in the area between the contact faces 5c, 5d, 14a, 14b on the knife side and the holder side and which is screwed into the holder body 14 in the trough area 15 between the two V-shaped contact faces 14a, 14b on the holder side.

**[0043]** In the same way, a chipping knife 7', as shown in the top views of the top side and bottom side in FIGS 7 and 8, respectively, can be mounted on the chipping



knife mounting face 6 of the holder body 14, as can be seen in a respective view of the end face in FIG 9 and as explained above with regard to the exemplary embodiment shown in FIGS 1 through 3, which is largely identical in design. The chipping knife mounting face 6 of the holder body 14 has profiling with two holder contact faces 14c, 14d, which are inclined toward one another in a V shape, and against which two knife contact faces 7c, 7d that are inclined toward one another in a V shape correspondingly with a self-centering effect can be brought in contact.

[0044] The chipping knife 7' is also of the turning knife type with two cutting edges 7a, 7b on the longitudinal sides, as stated above, and its design corresponds largely to that shown in FIGS 1 through 3. In contrast with the latter, the chipping knife 7' is inclined over the entire area on its two transverse sides 38, 39, as shown by the top side view in FIG 7 and the bottom side view in FIG 8. Specifically the chipping knife 7' has its greatest longitudinal extent at the longitudinal center, and each transverse side 38, 39 is designed to form a bottom inclined face 38a, 38b, 39a, 39b and a top inclined face 38c, 38d, 39c, 39d, with the inclined faces 38a through 39d each extending outward from the longitudinal center to the respective knife cutting edge end and from the underside of the knife or the top side of the knife to the level of the cutting knife plane, where they meet. The inclined faces 38a, 38b, 39a, 39b on the bottom side function as potential contact faces, i.e., when the chipping knife 7' is mounted, it is in contact with the contact face of the slabbing

knife 5 over the full area facing the slabbing knife 5 and the active chipping knife cutting edge 7a.

[0045] The chipping knife 7' is therefore in contact with the slabbing knife 5 more or less without any gaps up to the height of its longitudinal center. The advantages of such contact between the chipping knife and the slabbing knife on their active knife cutting edge side, as mentioned above with regard to the exemplary embodiment illustrated in FIGS 1 through 3, consequently also apply to the example shown in FIGS 4 through 9 to a particular extent, where this contact is not merely in one or more points but instead is at least a line and in this example even covers a relatively large area. Even after frequent regrinding, the chipping knife 7' and the slabbing knife 5 are still in mutual contact without any gaps along their active knife cutting edge after being mounted on the holder body 14, so that no chipped wood product can penetrate into the gap or become lodged there.

[0046] In alternative embodiments, the slope of the knife which is implemented only in the areas shown here on the chipping knife and which leads to the linear and/or area contact of the two knives on the holder may also be provided on the slabbing knife instead of on the chipping knife. In other alternative exemplary embodiments, the slope may also be distributed between the two knives, i.e., the chipping knife and the slabbing knife are provided with corresponding slopes in this

contact area, so that they are in linear or surface contact with one another without any gaps after mounting.

[0047] The chipping knife is mounted as described in the exemplary embodiment according to FIGS 1 through 3 by two fastening screws which pass through the chipping knife 7' with a distance between them at the longitudinal center and in the longitudinal direction of the chipping knife and are screwed into threaded bores, which are provided in the trough area between the holder contact faces 14c, 14d in the holder body 14, one threaded bore 18 being visible in FIG 9.

[0048] In addition, FIG 9 shows on the back the two holder fastening bores 12, 13 which are situated laterally next to the mounting faces 4, 6 for the slabbing knife 5 and the chipping knife 7' in the holder halves and serve to accommodate two fastening screws with which the holder body 14 can be detachably attached directly to a base body, e.g., in the form of a truncated cone, of the knife tool head without hindrance due to the two mounted knives 5, 7'. Two blind holes 19, 20 function as centering holes for mounting the holder on the tool head base body.

[0049] FIGS 10 and 11 show two exemplary embodiments of the inventive knife holder. FIG 10 shows a counterclockwise chipping knife tool head 21 with a base body 22 in the form of a truncated cone, with receptacles 23 distributed around the surface and in contact with the end face, such that one knife holder 24a, 24b can be inserted into each receptacle. Two different knife holder types 24a, 24b are used,

each having a slabbing knife 5 and a chipping knife 7', 7", where the chipping knives 7', 7" differ in length. The one type of knife 24a corresponds essentially to the knife holder of FIGS 4 through 7 with the slabbing knife 5 on the end side and the chipping knife 7' on the peripheral side; the other type of knife holder 24b has the same slabbing knife 5 but has a shorter chipping knife 7" having approximately the same length as the slabbing knife 5.

[0050] Along the circumference of the tool head base body 22, two holders 24b of the type with the short chipping knife 7" alternate with a holder 24a of the type with a long chipping knife 7'. The slabbing knives 5 of the respective two successive holders 24b with the short chipping knife 7" are arranged in axially offset planes, such that the forward slabbing knife in the direction of rotation is situated approximately at the height of the end face of the tool head 21, and the following slabbing knife is offset axially toward the rear by a certain amount. With this arrangement, a defined chip thickness can be achieved according to the axial spacing of the slabbing knives. It is self-evident that any other desired sequence of the two holder types 24a, 24b with different chipping knives 7', 7" may be provided as needed.

[0051] FIG 11 shows a clockwise chipping knife tool head 25 with a base body 26 in the form of a truncated cone provided with recesses 27 on the end side adjacently on the peripheral side, so that the knife holders of the knife holder type having the

holder body 1 according to FIGS 1 through 3 are inserted into these recesses. The slabbing knives 5 face the end side of the tool head 25; the chipping knives 7' face the lateral surface of the truncated cone shape of the base body 26.

**[0052]** Specifically in this example, six knife holders 1 are distributed uniformly over the circumference on the base body 26. Axially behind them there is a second row of six knife holders 28 in the circumferential direction, mounted in the respective receptacles 29 on the lateral surface of the truncated cone shape of the base body 25. These knife holders 28 are arranged so they are offset in the circumferential direction centrally with respect to the forward knife holders 1. In other words, in the circumferential direction there is a knife holder 28 which is at the rear axially and centrally between two knife holders 1 that are at the front axially. The rear knife holders 28 are each assembled with only one chipping knife 7' which corresponds in shape and in type of fastening to the chipping knives 7' of the forward knife holders 1.

**[0053]** In its design with the stepped slabbing knives and the combination of short and long chipping knives, the tool head 21 in FIG 10 covers the most common application cases of required chipping depths, but the tool head 25 in FIG 11 is especially suitable for greater chipping depths that go beyond the former. The greater chipping depth is accomplished by the rear knife holders 28, which are mounted on the circumference, each carrying only the chipping knife 7'.

[0054] It can be seen that the desired chipping and smoothing functions are fulfilled very well with the chopping knife tool heads shown in FIGS 10 and 11. The knife holders with their one-piece holder bodies are very easily directly mountable on the tool head base body and dismountable therefrom. Likewise, the slabbing knives and the chipping knives are each very easily mounted directly on their holders and dismantled from them as explained above. Due to the arrangement of the slabbing knife or planing knife and the chipping knife or circumferential knife on a common holder, a good and precise flow of chips is achieved. The knife as well as the holder are each attached by direct fastening means, preferably screws, without additional clamping elements, which permits a secure hold and a very compact design. The chipping knives are designed so that they can be used on both sides, i.e., on a clockwise knife tool head and a counterclockwise knife tool head.

[0055] The knife holders are suitable in particular for mounting on conical or disk-shaped milling or chipping heads in wood processing. The chipper heads may be designed so that the knife holders are arranged in various stages from the flat surface outward to produce a defined chip thickness. These steps cover the range of the most common chip cutting depths. Greater chip cutting depths are then achieved by a knife holder with a long chipping knife, where the chip thickness here tends to be more random. However, this case does not occur frequently, with a proper design of the tool head and therefore does not significantly influence the quality of the chips. It is self-evident that this invention is suitable not only for

processing wood by chipping but also for all other applications for knife tool heads. In all cases it is advantageous that chipper knives and slabbing knives can be mounted jointly and directly on a holder body, preferably designed in one piece, e.g., in contact with the V-shaped contact faces, and the holder body can in turn be attached directly to the knife tool head.

[0056] The foregoing disclosure has been set forth merely to illustrate the invention and is not intended to be limiting. Since modifications of the disclosed embodiments incorporating the spirit and substance of the invention may occur to persons skilled in the art, the invention should be construed to include everything within the scope of the appended claims and equivalents thereof.